

# Bishop Sullivan Center

## NEWS & REFLECTIONS

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### CALLING ALL CARS! PEOPLE NEED HELP GETTING TO WORK

When people come to our Employment Service program we ask them to fill out a questionnaire to help us better guide them toward finding a job. One of the questions is, "What is your greatest obstacle to finding employment?" The number one answer, by far, is, "Transportation." If you are looking for a job and you do not have a car, your options are very limited.

For the past ten years we have offered no interest loans to low-income people to help buy a used car to help them with employment. We loan up to \$4,000. It can be a challenge to find a reliable vehicle for that price. So, we are looking for donated cars.

UMB and Dick Smith Ford have stepped forward and offered to help. UMB plans to donate one used car a quarter, when one of their borrowers has defaulted. Dick Smith Ford has already donated several cars and has offered to cherry pick good trade-ins, inspect them, fix them and let us have them at a low cost. We would then have better cars at much less than \$4,000; we're thinking around \$2,500.

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We are calling this new initiative, "Drive KC To Work." The heart of the program is to help people in our city who are having trouble holding down



The number one obstacle our clients have in finding work or better employment opportunities is not having a car. "Drive KC To Work" is a program Bishop Sullivan Center is launching to help job-seekers get affordable cars.

their job or improving their employment situation because they lack a car.

Based on other models around the country, we are hoping that we can help 50 families a year. Currently, we are just averaging about 10 a year. For those of us who have always had a car we have little idea what a difference a car can make to a family.

One study reports that when a family goes from being without a car to having a car their income increases on average 41 per cent.

If you have a used car you would like to donate to this program, let us know. It would make a huge difference in the life of a family.



# "BILLY'S DOUBLE CLUB FOR KIDS"

## *BILLY BUTLER'S HIT IT A TON PROGRAM EXPANDS TO KIDS*

Billy Butler hopes his home runs and doubles will produce not just wins for the Royals, but more food for our pantries and soup kitchen. For every home run that Billy hits this year he will donate a ton of food (\$250) and for every double he'll donate a half a ton of food (\$125). Last year he hit 15 home runs and 45 doubles.

In addition to the Hit It A Program where a donation gets you autographed memorabilia and tickets to a game, this year we are launching "Billy's Double Club for Kids." For a \$50 donation a kid will get a "Doubles Club" t-shirt, an invitation to a club brunch with Billy (in August), tickets to a game and a DVD where Billy and his wife Katie talk about the importance of helping the less fortunate.

For more information about these programs go to [www.hit-it-a-ton.org](http://www.hit-it-a-ton.org).



Billy Butler signs an autograph for a young fan at last year's Hit It A Ton picnic. All donors to Hit It a Ton and "Doubles Club for Kids" will be invited to a special brunch with Billy this year.



## Bishop Sullivan Center Auction, Raffle & Trivia Night! Saturday, April 9, 2011

Town Pavilion, 1111 Main Street, 25th floor  
**FREE PARKING** • Doors open at 5:30 p.m.



- \$25 a ticket or five for \$100.00
- Winner chooses ONE of these four prizes
- Need not be present to win
- Drawing at the auction on April 9

**Seven Day Alaskan Cruise for Two**  
(includes airfare)  
\$4,000 value

**Trip to Disney World**

(Two adults and four children, airfare, hotel, 3-day park passes, 4 day, 3 night)  
valued at \$4,000

**Trip to Hawaii for Two**

(six days, five nights)  
valued at \$3,500

**\$3,000.00 CASH!!!**

**Purchase Auction/Trivia Night tickets at: [www.bishopsullivan.org](http://www.bishopsullivan.org)**

Only 60 tables (ten at a table) will be available. Reserve tables NOW by emailing Jane McQueen at [jane.mcqueen@bishopsullivan.org](mailto:jane.mcqueen@bishopsullivan.org) or 816-231-0984